

Prescription Advisory Council Created

Gov. Steve Beshear issued an executive order in October creating an advisory council of doctors, pharmacists, nurses and law enforcement to recommend guidelines for determining irregular prescribing habits through the state's prescription drug monitoring system.

A recent report from the Kentucky Department for Public Health said more Kentuckians are dying as a result of drug overdoses than those who have died from injuries sustained in motor-vehicle accidents. The rate of drug-induced deaths has steadily risen from 2005 to 2009, while the number of motor-vehicle deaths continues to decline.

The council will work with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, which administers the state's drug monitoring program, Kentucky All Schedule Prescription Electronic Reporting. The council's recommendations will better enable KASPER administrators to flag unusual prescribing habits and submit them to the appropriate medical licensure board for further review or criminal investigation.

KASPER has been an excellent tool for tracking prescription drugs, Beshear said, but the advisory group will fill a gap in the program's effectiveness in targeting doctors who are participating in criminal activity.

The advisory board will work with KASPER officials and law enforcement professionals to create guidelines for generally accepted practices among different medical disciplines. These criteria will be used to guide when a prescriber or dispenser's KASPER reports may be flagged for unusual prescribing activity.



Basketball Tournament Looking for Teams

The Kentucky Law Enforcement Invitational Tournament will be conducted this January in Bowling Green, Ky. The historical basketball tournament has been played in January for 25 years and its teams are comprised of law enforcement from across the state. If you would like to get involved, call Lexington Division of Police Detective Robert Goggins at (859) 258-3548.

NEW SUPERVISOR

Roy Jude Serving as New General Studies Supervisor



Roy Jude

On Sept. 1, Department of Criminal Justice Training Instructor Roy Jude was promoted to section supervisor in General Studies.

Jude joined DOCJT in 2007 from the ITT Technical Institute, where he served as the department chair of the School of Criminal Justice. He retired in March 2005 from the Winchester Police Department, where he was a training captain.

"I feel honored to represent the Basic Training Branch and the instructors of the General Studies Section," he said. "I am looking forward to participating in the future developments of law enforcement training to ensure it meets the needs of Kentucky communities."